

WI-366

Young's Purchase House  
Mardela Springs  
Private Museum

c. 1820-30

Moved to the Adkins Historical Complex in the mid 1980s, this two-story, one-room plan house dwelling formerly stood on a nearby farm historically known as part of "Young's Purchase." Remnants of beaded weatherboards and mature cut nails date the house to the early nineteenth century, probably around 1820-30. The simply finished interior was sheathed on the first floor with 10" to 12" wide yellow pine boards fastened horizontally with cut nails. Seams in the interior sheathing on the east wall indicate the former location of a chimney. Originally, access to the second floor was provided by means of a steep ladder. During the late nineteenth century, the one-room house was modified with the construction of a shed roofed kitchen off the west gable end. Around the same time a single flue brick stack was inserted on the west side, and a narrow, steeply pitched stair was fitted against the chimney stack.

## MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Young's Purchase House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-366

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):     Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation:     Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s):     Agricultural-Industrial Transition  
1815-1870
4. Resource Type(s):     House

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-366

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Young's Purchase House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Railroad Avenue \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Mardela Springs \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name J Howard and Louise Adkins

street & number 1010 Camden Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No.

WI-366

**Condition**☐ excellent☒ good☐ fair☐ deteriorated☐ ruins☐ unexposed**Check one**☐ unaltered☒ altered**Check one**☐ original site☒ moved

date of move 1983

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Young's Purchase house is a two-story, two-bay, one-room plan dwelling that stands on the south side of Railroad Avenue on the northern edge of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland. Moved to this site in the early 1980s, the house faces north with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Estimated to date around 1820-30, the two-story, one-room plan dwelling is supported on a continuous brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with a combination of plain and beaded weatherboards. The original beaded weatherboards are limited to a few boards under the cornice. A steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the west gable end is a single-story shed roofed kitchen addition.

The north (main) elevation is a two-bay facade with a side entrance and an adjacent six-over-six sash window marking the first floor. The second floor is lighted by a pair of six-over-six sash windows that aligned with the first floor openings. Trimming the base of the roof is a boxed cornice. A few top weatherboards have a beaded edge.

The east gable end is pierced by a single six-over-six sash window on the southeast corner. Otherwise the gable end a plain weatherboard wall finished with a flush gable end. Covering a large part of the west end is the single-story shed roofed kitchen, which has a side entrance in the north wall. Piercing the gable end of the main block is a single flue brick chimney.

The south (rear) elevation is a two-bay wall with six-over-six sash windows lighting the first and second floors. A series of beaded weatherboards survives above the second floor windows.

The house has been converted into a small museum. During renovation work horizontal board walls were found underneath layers of wallpaper. Evidence was found in the northeast corner for a ladder stair that originally served the house. A large patched section of horizontal board wall indicates the former location of a previous chimney stack. Currently the second floor is reached by wall of a steep staircase built against the west wall next to the stove chimney. A beaded board-and-batten door opens into the shed roofed kitchen. The second floor has been stripped of its lath and plaster ceiling, thereby exposing the rough sawn floor joists.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-366

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

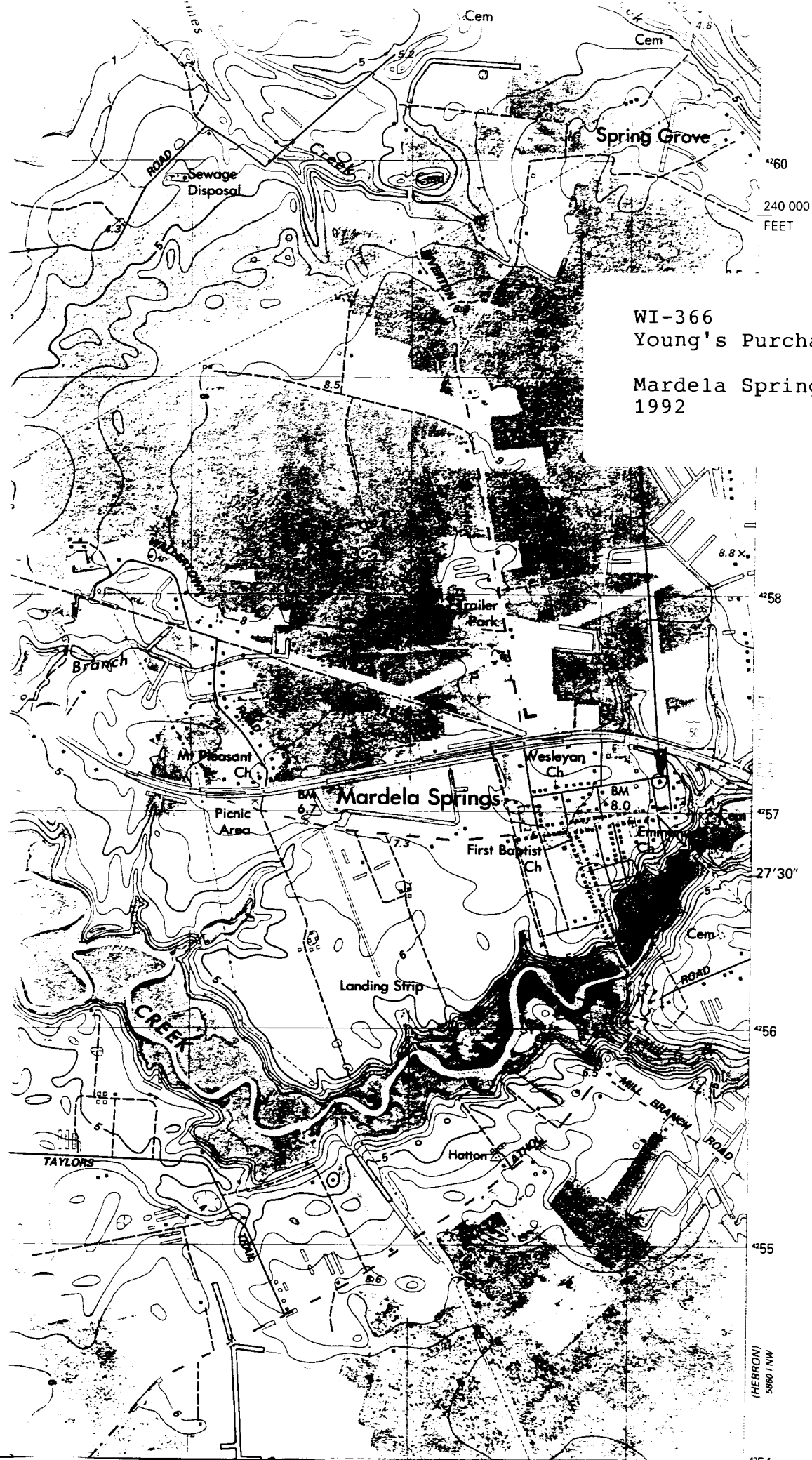
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Moved to the Adkins Historical Complex in the mid 1980s, this two-story, one-room plan house dwelling formerly stood on a nearby farm historically known as part of "Young's Purchase." Remnants of beaded weatherboards and mature cut nails date the to the early nineteenth century, probably around 1820-30. The simply finished interior was sheathed on the first floor with 10" to 12" wide yellow pine boards fastened horizontally with cut nails. Seams in the interior sheathing on the east wall indicate the former location of a chimney. Originally, access to the second floor was provided by means of a steep ladder. During the late nineteenth century, the one-room house was modified with the construction of a shed roofed kitchen off the west gable end. Around the same time a single flue brick stack was inserted on the west side, and a narrow, steeply pitched stair was fitted against the chimney stack.

This house deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies buildings that must be preserved due to their architectural and historical interest. Few one-room plan houses have survived in relatively intact condition in Wicomico County.

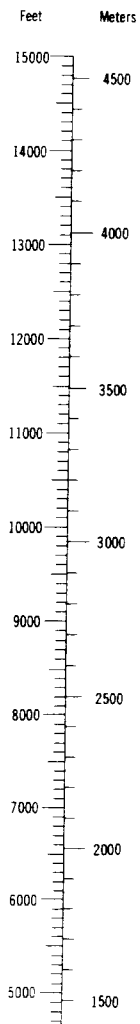
Survey No. WI-366

## PS-2746



WI-366  
Young's Purchase House  
Mardela Springs, Maryland Quadrangle  
1992

CONVERSION  
SCALES



(HEBRON)  
5860 NW